

## **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

1 to 17 (Cancelled)

18. (New) In a fluid reservoir for a paint spray gun comprised of a receptacle and a lid that can be placed thereon, wherein the lid has a connecting element in order to place the fluid reservoir on the paint spray gun or an adapter and wherein the receptacle has a ventilation port that can be opened and closed by means of a valve, the improvement comprising:

- (a) the ventilation port formed as a tapered through hole in a wall of the receptacle to define a first valve seat;
- (b) said tapered through hole surrounded by an open hollow cylinder defining a valve housing, having a preselected external diameter, oriented normal to the receptacle wall, and having an exterior surface extending from the receptacle wall to its open end, said exterior surface of said hollow cylinder defining a second valve seat adjacent said receptacle wall;
- (c) a valve closure element composed of a cap from which depends an open skirt having an internal diameter substantially equal to said preselected external diameter, said skirt being received over the open end of said hollow cylinder and being in engagement with the exterior surface;
- (d) a first valve element comprised of a support part that extends with clearance from said cap to below the skirt and terminates at its lower end in a tapered plug for cooperating with said tapered hole as a first valve;
- (e) a second valve element comprised of a portion of the skirt remote from said cap for cooperating with said second valve seat as a second valve;
- (f) said two valves being arranged serially relative to ventilation the path of which

extends from said through hole, between the hollow cylinder and the support member, between the cap and the open end of the hollow cylinder, between the exterior surface of the hollow cylinder and the skirt, past the second valve with air entering the path at a lower end of the skirt;

(g) said valve closure element being displaceable relative to said valve housing between a first valve position, in which the ventilation port is closed off serially by said first and second valves so interior of the receptacle is shut off from the environment and any leakage of liquid from the receptacle through the first valve will be trapped by the second valve, and a second valve position, in which both valves are open and an equalization of pressure is achieved via ventilation flow; and

(h) said valve closure element being releasably held relative to said valve housing in the first and second valve positions.

19. (New) The improvement according to claim 18 wherein said valve closure element is releasably held relative to said hollow cylinder in the first and second valve positions by mutually coacting elements of said hollow cylinder and said skirt.

20. (New) The improvement according to claim 19 wherein the mutually coacting elements comprise a rib projecting radially from one of said hollow cylinder and skirt and two spaced circumferentially extending grooves defined by the other of said hollow cylinder and skirt.

21. (New) The improvement according to claim 19 wherein a bypass channel for air is defined by said hollow cylinder located between the second valve and the open end of the hollow cylinder.

22. (New) In a fluid reservoir for a paint spray gun comprised of a receptacle and a lid that can be placed thereon, wherein the receptacle has a connecting element in order to place the fluid reservoir on the paint spray gun or an adapter and wherein the

receptacle has a ventilation port that can be opened and closed by means of a valve, the improvement comprising:

- (i) the ventilation port formed as a tapered through hole in a wall of the receptacle to define a first valve seat;
- (ii) said tapered through hole surrounded by an open hollow cylinder, having a preselected external diameter, oriented normal to the receptacle wall, and having an exterior surface extending from the receptacle wall to its open end, said exterior surface of said hollow cylinder defining a second valve seat adjacent said receptacle wall;
- (iii) a valve closure element composed of a cap from which depends an open hollow cylindrical base member having an internal diameter substantially equal to said preselected external diameter and having an interior surface;
- (iv) said valve closure element being received on said hollow cylinder with the interior surface of the valve closure element engaging the exterior surface of the hollow cylinder and with the cap having clearance from the open end of the hollow cylinder;
- (v) said valve closure element defining a first valve element comprised of a support part that extends with clearance from said cap to below the open end of the hollow cylindrical base member and terminates at its lower end in a tapered plug to be received in said tapered hole and in cooperation therewith to serve as a first valve;
- (vi) said valve closure element defining a second valve element comprised of a portion of the interior surface located at the open end of the open hollow cylindrical base member that coacts with said second valve seat to serve as a second valve;
- (vii) said two valves being arranged serially in the direction of a ventilation flow pathway that extends from said ventilation through hole, through the clearance between the hollow cylinder and the support member, through the clearance between the cap and the open end of the hollow cylinder, between the exterior surface of the hollow cylinder and the interior surface of the hollow cylindrical base member, past the second valve and exiting through the open end of the hollow cylindrical base member;

(viii) said valve closure element being displaceable relative to said hollow cylinder between a first valve position, in which the ventilation port is closed off serially by said first and second valves so the interior of the receptacle is shut off from the environment and any leakage of the first valve will be trapped by the second valve, and a second valve position, in which both valves are open and an equalization of pressure is achieved via the ventilation flow pathway; and  
(ix) said valve closure element being releasably held relative to said hollow cylinder in the first and second valve positions by mutually coacting elements defined by said hollow cylinder and said hollow cylindrical base member.

23. (New) In a fluid reservoir for a paint spray gun comprised of a receptacle and a lid that can be placed thereon, wherein the lid has a connecting element in order to place the fluid reservoir on the paint spray gun or an adapter and wherein the receptacle has a ventilation port that can be opened and closed by means of a valve, the improvement comprising:

the ventilation port formed as a tapered through hole in a wall of the receptacle to define a first valve seat, said tapered through hole surrounded by a hollow cylinder, having a preselected external diameter, oriented normal to the receptacle wall, and having an exterior surface extending from the receptacle wall to the open end, a peripheral rib projecting radially from said exterior surface located between the receptacle wall and said open end, said exterior surface defining a second valve seat adjacent said receptacle wall, a passageway defined in the exterior surface from a point above said second valve seat to said open end;

a valve closure element composed of a cap from which depends a hollow cylindrical base member having an internal diameter substantially equal to said preselected external diameter and having an interior surface in which is defined two spaced circumferentially extending grooves, said valve closure element defining a first valve element comprised of a part that depends from said cap to below the hollow cylindrical base member and has a cross section to easily fit into said hollow cylinder with

clearance and terminates at its lower end in a tapered plug to be received in said tapered hole and in cooperation therewith to serve as a first valve;  
said valve closure element defining a second valve element comprised of a surface located at a lower part of the hollow cylindrical base member that coacts with said second valve seat to serve as a second valve;  
said two valves being arranged one behind the other relative to ventilation flow;  
said valve closure element being displaceable relative to said hollow cylinder between a first valve position, in which ventilation is closed off by said first and second valves, and a second valve position, in which both valves are open and an equalization of pressure between the interior of the receptacle and the environment is made possible via the ventilation port, said valve closure element being held detachably relative to said hollow cylinder in the first and the second valve positions by the coaction of said rib and said grooves.

24. (New) A kit for a paint spray gun comprised of a receptacle and a lid that can be placed thereon, wherein the lid has a connecting element in order to place the fluid reservoir on the paint spray gun or an adapter and wherein the receptacle has a ventilation port that can be opened and closed by means of a valve, the ventilation port formed as a tapered through hole in a wall of the receptacle to define a first valve seat; said tapered through hole surrounded by an open hollow cylinder, having a preselected external diameter, oriented normal to the receptacle wall, and having an exterior surface extending from the receptacle wall to its open end, said exterior surface of said hollow cylinder defining a second valve seat adjacent said receptacle wall;  
a valve closure element composed of a cap from which depends an open skirt having an internal diameter substantially equal to said preselected external diameter, said skirt being received over the open end of said hollow cylinder and being in engagement with the exterior surface;  
a first valve element comprised of a support part that extends with clearance from said cap to below the skirt and terminates at its lower end in a tapered plug for cooperating with said tapered hole as a first valve;

a second valve element comprised of a portion of the skirt remote from said cap for cooperating with said second valve seat as a second valve;  
said two valves being arranged serially relative to ventilation the path of which extends from said through hole, between the hollow cylinder and the support member, between the cap and the open end of the hollow cylinder, between the exterior surface of the hollow cylinder and the skirt, past the second valve with air entering the path at a lower open end of the skirt;

said valve closure element being displaceable relative to said hollow cylinder between a first valve position, in which the ventilation port is closed off serially by said first and second valves so interior of the receptacle is shut off from the environment and any leakage of liquid from the receptacle through the first valve into the ventilation path will be trapped by the second valve, and a second valve position, in which both valves are open and an equalization of pressure is achieved via ventilation flow; and  
said valve closure element being releasably held relative to said hollow cylinder in the first and second valve positions.

25. The kit according to claim 24 wherein the lid is formed at it edge with at least one valve closure element integrally attached by a web, the web being a predetermined breaking point so the valve closure element can be torn off.